

C. Leno

25 APR 1950

Chief, COAPS

Assistant Director for Reports and Estimates

Draft Plan for National Overt Psychological Warfare, dated 7 April 1950

1. Upon the final approval of a plan for national overt psychological warfare and in accordance with the mission of the Central Intelligence Agency to produce national intelligence, the Office of Reports and Estimates intends to analyze the Objectives set forth to determine the validity of the analysis of world situations upon which they are based. The Office of Reports and Estimates will also undertake an analysis of the Tasks set out in the plan to determine what intelligence must be produced in order to test the validity of the Tasks and to assist in their implementation. It is contemplated that the Office of Reports and Estimates will also study situations affected by the activities of the psychological warfare program and produce intelligence to show the situations as influenced by the program.

2. The Director of Central Intelligence has already taken action to implement the Central Intelligence Agency's responsibilities for the coordination of the interdepartmental intelligence support of the psychological warfare program by establishing an Interdepartmental Psychological Intelligence Committee. It is contemplated that this Committee will approve programs and allocate responsibilities for the production of specific intelligence studies in support of the psychological warfare effort.

3. A preliminary examination of the subject draft plan suggests certain general defects that should be subjected to further consideration:

a. There appears to be inadequate recognition of the degree to which a foreigner's opinions about the United States are formed as a result of the political and economic acts of the United States and the many United States private organizations and individuals operating or travelling abroad.

b. There appears to be inadequate planning for the execution of economic, political, or military acts for the purpose of furthering psychological Tasks.

c. The entire plan seems to be pitched at a high intellectual level that does not adequately recognize the highly personal, emotional character of the problem.

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4. There also appear to be certain specific defects:

a. In paragraph 13 a of the draft plan, the Director of Central Intelligence should be directed to "Make detailed plans and preparations within his Agency to wage psychological warfare..." rather than to "exploit" psychological warfare.

b. In paragraph 8 of Enclosure D, the Interim Psychological Warfare Board should include a non-voting member designated by the Director of Central Intelligence.

c. In paragraph 7 of Enclosure E, the National Psychological Warfare Board should include a non-voting member designated by the Director of Central Intelligence rather than mere liaison representation.

151
THEODORE HABBITT

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